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TWO MEN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

Defendants admit to conspiring to commit armed bank robbery

Shreveport, Louisiana . . . United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced that **MORRIS LYNN GULETT and CHARLES SCOTT THORNTON**, who both previously pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit armed bank robbery, conspiracy to possess a firearm to rob a bank, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and forfeiture, were sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Robert G. James in Monroe.

GULETT, age 50, of Calhoun, Louisiana, formerly associated with the Aryan Nations group and professed Phineas priest, was **sentenced to spend 72 months in prison.**

THORNTON, age 23, of Piedmont, Alabama, was **sentenced to spend 60 months in prison.**

An indictment was returned in April 2005 charging **GULETT and THORNTON** with conspiracy to commit armed bank robbery, conspiracy to possess, carry and use a firearm to rob a bank, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and forfeiture.

Testimony at the hearing revealed that between April 8 and April 21, 2005, GULETT directed THORNTON to leave the State of Louisiana and travel to the State of Alabama to locate a bank to rob. GULETT and THORNTON, both convicted felons, had numerous firearms in their possession, including two SKS semi-automatic rifles, a Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, and a Firestorm .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. United States Sentencing Guidelines established by the United States Congress and the United States Sentencing Commission are only used as guidelines by the judge in determining the appropriate sentence. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Monroe Resident Agency, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert W. Gillespie, Jr.

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